Communities of Opportunity Design Committee Meeting Notes

August 21, 2014

Attendees: Sharon Toquinto, Matias Valenzuela, Michael Brown, Laurie Sylla, Judy de Barros, Aaron Robertson, Kirsten Wysen, Sarah Ross-Viles, Alice Ito, Nilofer Ahsan, Kira Zylstra, Hilary Franz, Paola Maranan, Nadine Chan, Holly Rohr Tran.

Welcome, Introductions and Review of Agenda

Policy/Systems RFP update

- Currently at mid-point in process
- Received 92 proposals – indicates a lot of energy in community for this work
- Proposals were screened for eligibility; Expanded review committee to ensure adequate review of proposals; proposals were scored and review committee met to make recommendations for site visits
- 18 applicants are receiving site visits this week; those conducting the site visits will ask questions and bring info back to review committee
- Timeline has been adjusted on front end and back end. The review committee's funding recommendations will go to The Seattle Foundation (TSF) and King County (KC) leadership mid-Sept. for decisions
- In addition, TSF plans to make smaller capacity building awards (through donor-based funds) to a small number of applicants; the review committee identified this need which surfaced in the review process
- Awards will be announced 3rd or 4th week of Sept.

Group discussion included:

- ➤ Consider how to bring those not funded together to encourage alignment in efforts and potential future funding; perhaps through follow-up personal conversations.
- ➤ Consider asking some of the smaller (unfunded) applicants to participate in governance structure
- ➤ Amongst applications, seemed to be a fairly good understanding of what policy/systems change is, although some just articulated it in different language.
- ➤ There was a diverse set of applicants - depth of outreach got in front of lots of groups

- ➢ Pay attention to what we can learn from the community in this process:
  - ○ How does this Design Committee share learnings with others as well? This group of proposals is a rich set of ideas; how can we leverage this opportunity to make some possible wins in the future that we're not even aware of now?
  - ○ One reviewer was impressed with the creativity of some proposals which proposed alternative systems rather than just tweaking existing systems.
  - ○ Some proposals addressed only practice changes for providing services – this was allowed by RFP language – should be clearer in the future if we don't want this.
- ➢ Create summary of themes to show direction and momentum in the community
  - ○ evaluation team should take the lead on putting together
  - ○ make available online
  - ○ could be used to catalyze other funders
  - ○ will support folks' applications as valuable beyond just the immediate funding opportunity
  - ○ could inform/help in advancing policy change
  - ○ could connect partners within the region
- ➢ Map community level data and also community assets (categorized by focus area). Having a plan for how this can stay current is an important part of the conversation.)

Move through Agreements Needed on 8/21 in Communities of Opportunity document

The Design Committee agreed on Results Statement and Guiding Principles language. They also reviewed current status of Funding, Governance and Staffing and Measuring Impact sections. Eligibility, Community Outreach and Selection Criteria Commitments were discussed.

- ➢ A small group of Committee members will incorporate feedback into the document and bring it back for discussion at the next Design Committee meeting.

Compensation for Design Committee members

- • The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) has drafted a compensation proposal for members from small community-based organizations
- • A flat dollar amount (not payment by hour) to be offered to the organization (not individual) to honor their contribution and as recognition the relatively larger burden participation places on smaller organizations vs. larger ones.
- • Organizations can opt-out or designate an alternate place to donate funds, if they wish
- • Proposed numbers and specific parameters designating eligible organizations should be reviewed by this group
- • Articulate expectation that participants (as is the expectation of all group members) participate and contribute to meetings and outside-of-meeting efforts as much as possible
- • Proposal is framed toward future work, but not exclusive of past work.

➢ The written proposal will be circulated via email and further comments solicited from this group.

COO Strategies and Results Model

An initial draft of "COO Intersection Strategies and Shared Results: Examples and a Model" was distributed to solicit feedback and facilitate a shared understanding. Discussion included:

- Offer examples of strategies, but be open to others that applicants may propose
- Align Intersection Strategies examples with community priorities/interest (current examples are all federally funded)
- Consider offering TA that helps connect the pieces for some of the smaller organizations (capacity-building); take linear ideas and help them draw the connections and articulate as intersection strategies. Part of the value this work brings is being the multiplier, tying work together.
- Add level of "community goals"

➢ Members can send additional feedback via email – the next draft will be discussed at the Sept. 9 meeting.

Next Steps

➢ Reconvene small group to incorporate feedback from today's meeting into Site Selection Process and bring back to Sept. 9 meeting

  o Get crisper about what we expect folks to accomplish with $200k

  o Rework language to be more clear and add community-priority language (vs. federal priorities currently included in model)

➢ Create summary of 1st round proposals

➢ Circulate compensation proposal for group input via email

➢ All members to email Kirsten and Judy a brief response to the question "what makes this work different?" with the understanding that social improvement funding efforts have failed in the past partly because of not engaging communities.

➢ Additional feedback on the Strategies and Results Model can be emailed to Sarah Ross-Viles and Sharon Toquinto –the next draft will be discussed further at the Sept. 9 meeting.

Next meeting: September 9 from noon-3 pm
at the White Center CDA (605 SW 108th St, Seattle, WA 98146)